Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 54, No. 22 Published Biweekly December 11, 1995

The Queen of the Netherlands Visits the Library

Also: The Librarian Testifies on Collections Security

Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 54, No. 22
December 11, 1995

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

482

488

495

On the Cover: Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands ascends the stairs leading to the Great Hall of the Thomas Jefferson Building accompanied by her husband, Prince Claus (left), and Dr. Billington, Nov. 8. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Cover Story: Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus recently visited the Library for an actual and virtual tour of the institution. 485

Securing the Collections: Dr. Billington testified on Capitol Hill on the efforts of the Library to keep the collections safe from theft and mutilation. 479

Photo Opportunity: Eastman Kodak donated $1 million to the National Digital Library Program. 482

Global Agenda: Representatives from member countries of the Global Legal Information Network came to the Library for three days of discussions and demonstrations. 483

Dutch Americana: A new guide is published on the Library's Dutch collections relating to America. 487

Literary Interpretations: Umberto Eco told an audience at LC that texts must stand on their own. 488

Hungary's Future: The nation's ambassador to the United States gave his views. 489

Collection Guide: A guide to the Library's Feleky Collection of materials published in English about Hungary. 490

Rule of Law: A former ambassador to Yugoslavia discussed democracy in Eastern Europe. 491

News from the Center for the Book 493

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued biweekly except in August (no issues published) and in December (one issue published) by the Public Affairs Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies and allied organizations in the United States. It is also available over the Internet. On World Wide Web, use the following address: gopher://marvel.loc.gov/11/loc/pubs/lcib. On Gopher, connect to marvel.loc.gov and look under "Events, Facilities, Publications and Services."

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Public Affairs Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540–8610.

GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
MALINDA B. NEALE, PEGGY F. PIXLEY, SHERYLE O. SHEARS,
Printing Management Section
JOHN J. KOZAR, Publisher

Collections Security:
Dr. Billington Tells Congressional Panel of LC Efforts

Craig Hobson

Dr. Billington: "This Library staff is doing far more with far fewer people than it did eight years ago."

Dr. Billington on Nov. 29 told Congress of the Library's efforts to tackle collections security, create new financial and personnel systems and reduce the backlog of uncataloged books and other materials.

"We have plenty of improvements still to make and problems to solve," the Librarian said, "but the basic fact is that, despite everything, this Library staff is doing far more with far fewer people than it did eight years ago. I am proud of their efforts."

Dr. Billington described these efforts both in oral testimony and in written testimony submitted to the Joint Committee on the Library (JCL), chaired by Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.).

All these efforts involved basic matters "that had to be addressed – and resolved over the long term – even as we explored new technology and new ways to bring the Library's resources and services into the 21st century," Dr. Billington said.

Joining Sen. Hatfield were Sen. Connie Mack (R-Fla.), chairman of the Senate Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee; Rep. William M. Thomas (R-Calif.), vice chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library; Rep. Ron Packard (R-Calif.), chairman, House Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee; Sen. Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.), member of the JCL; Sen. John W. Warner (R-Va.), chairman of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration; and Reps. Ed Pastor (R-Ariz.) and Robert W. Ney (R-Ohio), members of the JCL.

The JCL hearing was the first since June 1993, when the Librarian testified on collections security measures taken after he closed the stacks in March 1992. Since then, dozens of additional measures have been taken under the Library's security plan.

The latest hearing was scheduled, as Dr. Billington observed, after widespread allegations of continued mutilations in the Jefferson Building and complaints in early August that the Library had apparently failed to live up to a 1993 request from the U.S. Attorney's office to report routinely to that office all mutilations and thefts from the collections.

Dr. Billington said that "based on available information and preponderant judgment of those who work most closely with the collections, I do not believe that there has been a large number, let alone an increase, of thefts and mutilations since 1992," contrary to allegations in the press.

He noted that he had ordered investigations by the Library's assistant inspector general, Ken Keeler. He said he would carry out "appropriate administrative actions when the investigation is complete."

Meanwhile, he said, he had made management changes, cemented ties with the U.S. Attorney's Office, further reduced staff access to the stacks, tightened up security coordination and hired an outside consultant, Computer Sciences Corp., to review LC security measures to date. He said specific instances of mutilation that occurred during 1993 and 1994 remain under investigation by Mr. Keeler and the FBI, along with one serious theft since August (of sheet music). Between Aug. 3 and Oct. 30, 1995, Library staff reported further discoveries of mutilations of 86 books, none of them valuable or rare. There was no evidence that these book mutilations were recent.

In his statement, Dr. Billington also noted that the Library had:

(1) implemented six of eight recommendations made by the General Accounting Office in a 1991 audit report requested by the Library;

(2) seen federal district court approval of a settlement in the *Cook* class action lawsuit and instituted a revised personnel selection process;

(3) proposed statutory authority to

Congress for LC's Inspector General's office, first established by Dr. Billington in 1988;

(4) recently revised fitness-for-duty regulations to accord with those governing executive branch agencies; and

(5) greatly reduced the backlog of uncataloged materials—despite a steadily downsized work force.

He said he welcomed the current GAO audit, requested in August 1995 by Sen. Hatfield and Sen. Mack. "We anticipate," he said, "that as with the 1991 GAO audit, which I requested, the GAO report next spring will provide the basis for requests [by the Library] for new or revised legislative authority in key areas."

Addressed to Sen. Hatfield, Rep. Thomas and other members of the JCL and Appropriations Committee, Dr. Billington's Nov. 29 statement follows:

Chairman Hatfield, Vice Chairman Thomas and members of the Joint Committee on the Library and the Appropriations Committee: I am very pleased to appear before you today. I last had the opportunity to testify before the Joint Committee on the Library in 1993 in the wake of my order a year earlier to close the book stacks at the Library of Congress. That decision was occasioned by unmistakable evidence of prior theft and mutilation and the successful prosecution of three individuals. We have since mounted a costly, long-range effort to protect the unrivaled collections in our three buildings here on Capitol Hill against theft and mutilation.

A hearing has now been called to address the state of collections security at the Library following widely publicized allegations of continued mutilations in the general book collections in the Jefferson Building. The allegations were first brought to my attention on Aug. 3, when I heard complaints that the Library police had apparently failed to live up to a 1993 request from the U.S. Attorney's Office to report routinely to that office all mutilations and thefts from the collections for further investigation.

I immediately directed the Library's assistant inspector general to investigate not only the U.S. Attorney's concern but also wider allegations. These investigations are continuing with the help of the FBI. My purpose here today is to brief you on the actions taken by the Library to improve security and further strengthen management at the Library, to lay out our plans for the future and to answer your questions.

Craig Hobson

Rep. William Thomas (right) queries Dr. Billington during the hearing, presided over by Sen. Mark Hatfield (left).

The Library's first priority is to make knowledge available and useful to the United States Congress. This primary purpose can be realized only if the Library preserves, secures and maintains its incomparable collections for present and future use. These are the two top priorities in the Library's overall statement of mission and strategy, which I would respectfully ask be included with my testimony as part of the record of this hearing.

The Library's Strategic Plan

I believe it would be helpful at the outset to summarize briefly the overall goals for the Library that I have been pursuing and the progress we have made since I became Librarian in September 1987.

The fundamental challenge for the Library of Congress under my stewardship has been to sustain and make more efficient basic services to Congress and the nation while effecting a transition into the new types of electronic services required for the Information Age.

To promote needed innovation, I introduced new and more flexible team approaches and gradually reduced both the number of service units and the size of the central decision-making body (from 17 to 5).

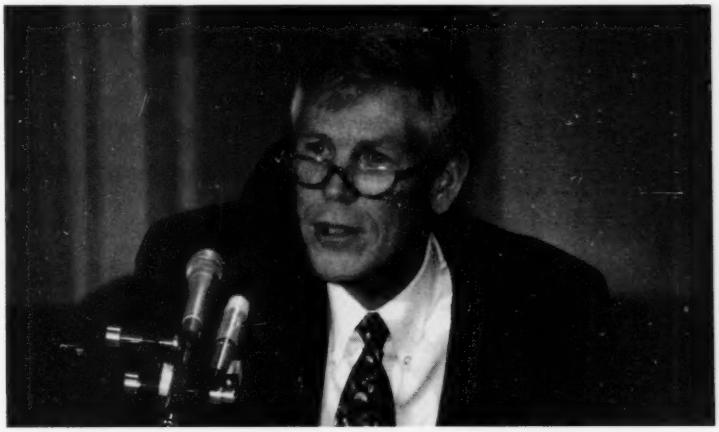
After an unprecedented and extensive series of internal and external studies of the Library, we adopted a broad strategic plan in

1992. We assigned priority to certain core problems of the traditional library for the first period (1993–96), which have in fact been the main focus of our efforts and accomplishments during this time.

We assigned second priority to developing a focus and timetable for our electronic program; and with the support of Congress, we have now launched the National Digital Library Program, which is to be realized during the second period of our strategic plan (1997–2000). The detailed recent restatement of our mission and strategy will enable us to develop the FY 1997 budget more directly from overall mission priorities.

Since FY 1988 (my first full year of service here), the Library has increased the number of congressional requests annually answered by the Congressional Research Service from less than 500,000 to almost 600,000 in FY 1995; increased in the Copyright Office the annual number of registrations from 560,000 to 610,000 and the number of copyright inquiries answered from 490,000 to 511,000; increased the number of free reading materials delivered across the country to the blind and physically handicapped from 20 million to 23 million; increased the number of items cataloged for the nation's libraries from 197,000 to 276,000. I have appended a chart showing the Library's increased workload.

Most astonishing of all has been the growth in the Library's total electronic transactions from almost nothing in FY 1988 to 8 million a month in FY 1992 to 20 million a month in FY 1995. With large portions of our card catalog and copyright records now on-line along with congressional information through our THOMAS system and the contents of all our major exhibits since 1991, we are now recording *almost 1 million computer transactions a day;* and we have only just begun to put on-line our American history collections as the core of the National Digital Library, which will make 5 million items from these unique collections [in collaboration with other major institutions] locally available in electronic form throughout the country by the year 2000.



Sen. Connie Mack also had questions for Library officials.

Congress has been consistently supportive of its Library, recognizing that it is a totally unique institution and fundamentally different from other agencies in the legislative branch of government. Congress has increased the Library's annual appropriations and provided vital seed money for the Library's effort to make its resources increasingly available electronically to all Americans.

But nearly 70 percent of the Library's budget is for personnel and the Library's budget has not been increased for three of the last four years to match the full amount of unfunded but mandated pay raises and price increases. The permitted number of funded full-time equivalent (FTE) positions has also been cut. As a result, the Library has lost 486 funded FTEs since FY 1987, a 10.5 percent reduction.

To have accomplished so much during this period, despite a steadily downsized work force, is a good example of doing more with less in a public agency. We have also been aided by the private sector in funding outreach projects and other areas not covered by federal appropriations (exhibits, retrospective acquisitions, leadership training).

The Speaker of the House has praised the National Digital Library as an exemplary new kind of "private-public partnership for learning." Of the $45 million that is to be raised privately to support it, $20 million has already been committed in contributions and pledges. Overall, I have increased annual fund-raising from $800,000 in FY 1988 to $16.5 million in FY 1995. Considerably more private money ($70.8 million) has come into the Library during my eight-year tenure than came in during the previous 50 years (some $53 million).

Preparing the Library For the 21st Century

When I first became Librarian, I realized that preparing the Library for the 21st century depended on coming to grips with a number of basic problems that had not been dealt with adequately in the 20th century. It was evident that, for a variety of reasons, the Library had

(Cont. on p. 496)

Photo Opportunity:

Kodak Donates $1 Million to Digital Library Program

The Library's National Digital Library (NDL) Program came a big step closer to achieving its fundraising goal when Eastman Kodak Co. donated $1 million to the program at a Nov. 1 news conference.

"The Library is grateful to CEO George Fisher and Eastman Kodak for their support of the National Digital Library Program," said Dr. Billington. "Kodak, a leader in electronic imaging technology, today demonstrates its commitment to the NDL Program through its generous gift."

The NDL Program, which is seeking private funds totaling $45 million by the year 2000, has now received $20 million in contributions and pledges. The goal of the program is to place 5 million items on the Internet, also by 2000. For fiscal 1996, Congress approved $3 million for the program.

"We applaud the Library of Congress's National Digital Library Program, which will make some of the nation's greatest treasures readily available to citizens of America. It is a privilege for Kodak to participate and support this project," said Mr. Fisher. "As a U.S. citizen who has come to understand the power of technology in delivering information and knowledge, I am excited by the prospects of a National Digital Library."

Dr. Billington shared his vision of the institution he heads, and how it "must evolve from a passive storehouse of knowledge to an active disseminator, to assure universal access to information through libraries and schools. We do not want America to become a nation of information 'haves' and 'have-nots.'"

He then introduced Mr. Fisher, a member of the Library's Madison Council, a private sector advisory group to the Library.

Stackig Inc.

George Fisher (right), Kodak CEO, hands a letter of intent to Dr. Billington during a news conference Nov. 1 announcing Kodak's $1 million gift.

Stackig Inc.

Mr. Fisher said Kodak's contribution to the National Digital Library Program was based on "enlightened self-interest," as Bob Zich, director of electronic programs, listened.

"The Library of Congress is already a major contributor to the Information Superhighway," Mr. Fisher said. "We are proud of this effort" to share the Library's collections with the world. "It is time for the private sector" to support efforts such as this.

Asked by a reporter why companies should give to programs such as the National Digital Library, Mr. Fisher replied that he believes Kodak's gift is one of "enlightened self-interest."

Another reporter wanted to know whether information on the Internet will do away with the printed book. According to the Librarian, the NDL Program "will enrich rather than impoverish the book culture" by providing resources that stimulate additional research using books and other traditional library materials.

During the news conference, Bob Zich, the Library's director of electronic programs, gave an overview of the initiatives the Library offers on its homepage (http://www.loc.gov/).

—Guy Lamolinara

At 'GLIN Central':

Members of Global Legal Information Network Meet at LC

Representatives of members of the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN) had the chance to meet one another and exchange information during a conference at the Library Sept. 25–27.

Nine of GLIN's 11 member nations sent envoys to provide reports on their experiences with the network and to view the Library's new TechCenter 21, a laboratory displaying technological advances in the field of law.

GLIN is a network, accessible on the Internet, in which member nations can access the full text of the laws of other members. By the end of the year, representatives from 15 countries will have completed GLIN training. Fifteen other countries are in various stages of proficiency in the program.

The participants were welcomed by Dr. Billington and Law Librarian Rubens Medina, as well as Nick Kozura, GLIN project manager, and Keith Ann Stiverson, special assistant to the law librarian.

Speaking to those attending, Dr. Billington said, "You are the most important members of the network, because you are the ones who have to make GLIN a success in your country. Technological developments in the last 20 years have made possible development of an electronic community."

In addition to the member nations, the United Nations, World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank and National Aeronautics and Space Administration sent representatives. "This is the kind of networking that shows how cooperation can work for the public good," Dr. Billington continued.

Dr. Medina backed up the Librarian's assertions, adding that the GLIN project directors "*are* the network." The objectives of the three-day conference, according to Dr. Medina were to:

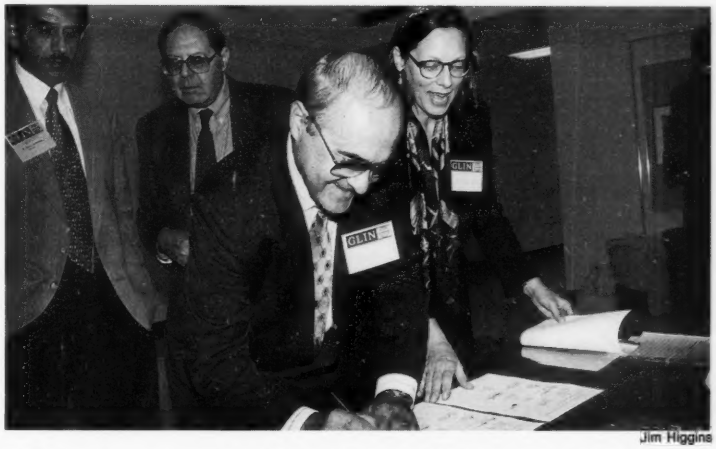
- ☐ learn from each other,
- ☐ agree on guiding principles and
- ☐ affirm a tradition on which to base GLIN's future.

NASA attended the conference because it is exploring ways in which satellites could be used to reach GLIN members that have no access to the Internet.

"Our problems are common, and we are committed to seeking common solutions," Dr. Medina assured attendees. He also confirmed that there would be no unilateral deci-

Jim Higgins

Rubens Medina listens as Burt Edelson of George Washington University addresses the GLIN participants.



Jim Higgins

Dr. Medina signs the GLIN Guiding Principles agreement as his special assistant, Keith Ann Stiverson, and (rear, from left) Wajeeh Al-Mansour of Kuwait and George Sfeir of the Law Library observe.

Jim Higgins

Erica Wissolik

Also signing the agreement were (top, from left): Ausra Petraitiene of Lithuania, Mykola Shvetz of Ukraine and Mohamed Lemine Ould Dahi of Mauritania (Natalie Gawdiak and George Sfeir of the Law Library observed) and Arnaldo Bravi of Argentina; Chief of Staff and Coordinator of the National Digital Library Program Suzanne Thorin (above) gave an overview of the Library's National Digital Library Program; Judith Stork-Kittleman of Information Technology Services touts the virtues of THOMAS.

Erica Wissolik

sions made regarding GLIN's operation, including by the Library.

"All of the members have the same rights and duties with respect to the network," he said.

Dr. Medina also announced that the GLIN prototype was completed and would remain unchanged for at least the next two years "to assure stability." Nick Kozura, whom Dr, Medina introduced as the GLIN technical expert, gave an overview of the technical requirements for GLIN participation, concluding that a nation can get on-line for less than $5,000 for hardware and (free) software.

The morning of Sept. 26 found attendees gathered in the Digital Library Visitors' Center, where Chief of Staff Suzanne Thorin complimented the work of the Law Library in making GLIN a reality. "In 1987, a digital library was only a dream," she said. "Then we conducted a pilot called American Memory and discovered that there was a need and interest in obtaining materials from the Library in electronic format," she said. American Memory was a 1990-94 pilot that tested in 44 sites across the country the viability of offering digitized materials from the Library's collections.

She also pointed out how GLIN can help members of Congress who need to know the latest information regarding the laws of other nations. "Think of how your libraries have changed with the availability of digital materials," she concluded.

Ms. Thorin was followed by Judith Stork-Kittleman, systems engineering manager in Information Technology Services. She provided an overview of THOMAS, a legislative database from the Library of the operations of the U.S. Congress.

The final day, Sept. 27, offered closing remarks from Dr. Medina and a signing ceremony in which the GLIN members affirmed their commitment to the project and to observing its guiding principles.

–Guy Lamolinara

Royal Guests:

Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus of the Netherlands Visit LC

by Helen Dalrymple

On Nov. 8 the Library was graced by royalty when Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus of the Netherlands visited for a tour—both actual and virtual—of the institution and its collections.

They had also come to Washington in an unofficial capacity to open an exhibition of Johannes Vermeer paintings at the National Gallery of Art.

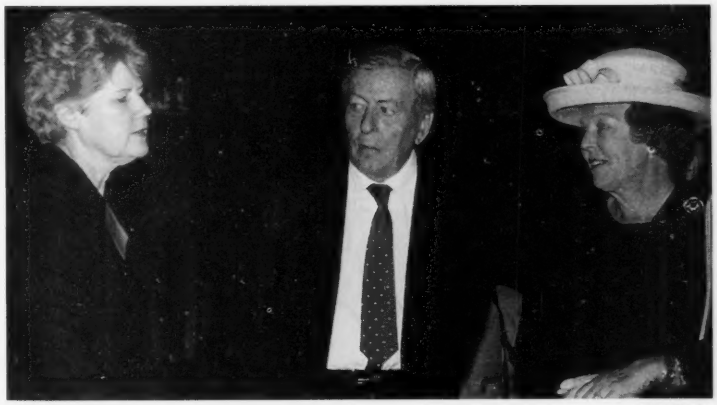
Dr. and Mrs. Billington greeted the Queen and Prince at the foot of the west front steps of the Jefferson Building, and Sen. and Mrs. Mark O. Hatfield (R-Ore.), the chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, were waiting to welcome them in the Great Hall.

Ford Peatross, curator of Architecture, Design and Engineering Collections, pointed out some of the architectural and design features of the building relating to the Netherlands as the party made their way slowly through the Great Hall toward the Main Reading Room to the Computer Catalog Center, where Linda White of the National Reference Service was waiting to demonstrate the Library's on-line catalog system.

"It was very, very pleasant," recalled Ms. White. "I showed the Queen subject, author and title searches, most of them based on her family—and I had some of the books there so that she could see them." One of the books she had pulled was *Lonely but Not Alone*, written by the Queen's grandmother, Queen Wilhelmina, in 1959.

Researchers, who had gone through metal detectors as they entered the building that morning, were at work in the Main Reading Room, and most seemed to enjoy being caught up in viewing the royal progress.

Library curators had laid out some of the Library's treasures in the Members Room for Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus to see, and as they entered the room, Her Majesty pointed out to Dr. Billington her gift to the Library of two Rembrandt Bibles, printed in 1910, which have been added to the collections of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division.



Jim Higgins

Jim Higgins

Margrit Krewson (top, left) of the European Division spoke with the royal visitors about the richness of the Dutch collections of the Library; Marvin Kranz of the Manuscript Division showed them a diary of Teddy Roosevelt in which he describes the death of his wife and mother on the same day, Feb. 14, 1884.

Jim Higgins

The Queen autographs a book for Sen. Hatfield (to her left), as Mrs. Billington, Prince Claus, Ford Peatross and Dr. Billington observe.

The items selected by Library curators to show the Queen included early Dutch letters, such as the medieval illuminated Warburg *Book of Hours*, with its vivid illustrations; a copy of the first national atlas of the Netherlands, showing the 17 provinces of 17th century Netherlands in the shape of the lion "Leo Belgicus" (1622); and an 18th century printing of the Dutch Bible, with lavish illustrations by Romeyn de Hooghe. Clark Evans, specialist in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, explained the importance of these items.

The history of early Dutch American relations was shown through materials from the Law Library and the Manuscript Division. Karel Wennink, a legal specialist in the Law Library who was born in the Netherlands and who graduated from the same university as the Queen (University of Leiden), showed her a 1788 copy of a Dutch translation of the U.S. Constitution, prepared for the large Dutch-speaking population of the state of New York.

Speaking to her in Dutch, he also pointed out an early Dutch translation of the Declaration of Independence.

Speaking in English, however, was not a problem, because, as Marvin Kranz, historian in the Manuscript Division, noted, "Her Majesty speaks better English than I do!" Mr. Kranz showed the royal party an exchange of letters that Thomas Jefferson had with a young Dutchman in 1784.

Ronald Grim, specialist in cartographic history in the Geography and Map Division, had a number of early images of America on display. Among them were the earliest Dutch map of America prepared by Dutch West India Co. cartographer Johannes Vingboons (1629); a 1589 *View of St. Augustine*, the earliest engraving of any city or territory now part of the United States; and a 1655 map of "New Netherlands" by the Dutch cartographer Nicholaes Visscher.

The visual tour through the Library's collections concluded with some Americana treasures, including George Washington's school notebook; Samuel Morse's first telegram (May 24, 1844); Alexander Graham Bell's 1884 laboratory notebook with the first successful telephone message; Theodore Roosevelt's pocket diary; and an early draft manuscript of Walt Whitman's poem "O Captain, My Captain," written on the death of Lincoln. Thomas Noonan, a specialist in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, was the Queen's guide on this final section of the tour.

Robert Zich, director of electronic programs, then gave the royal party a very different tour—through cyberspace. He demonstrated the capabilities of the Library's on-line systems, such as the automated catalog and the availability of images from the Library's exhibitions and collections. (Among the images he showed on-line were photographs from the Detroit Publishing Co. Collection in the Prints and Photographs Division of several Dutch Reform churches, which are no longer extant, and a film clip of a street entertainer from the 1890s).

He also showed how the Library provides "links" to other Internet resources around the world.

Dr. Billington then presented Her Majesty with the Library's gift, a specially prepared box containing copies of a newly published bibliography, *New Netherland, 1609–1664*, by Margrit B. Krewson, the German/Dutch area specialist in the European Division (see following story); a brochure she did on *The Dutch Collections in the Library of Congress*, and a copy of Charles Goodrum's *Treasures of the Library of Congress*.

Dr. Billington introduced Mrs. Krewson to Her Majesty and to His Royal Highness, and then introduced them to the other members of Congress who were present: Sen. and Mrs. Alan K. Simpson (R-Wyo.), Rep. Rodney P. Frelinghuysen (R-N.J.), Sen. Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.), Rep. Charles Taylor (R-N.C.) and Gayle Kildee, representing her husband, Rep. Dale E. Kildee (D-Mich.).

The Queen's visit concluded with a small tea in the adjacent Council of Scholars Room with members of Congress and Madison Council members Raja Sadawi, Mrs. Jefferson Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Small and Esther Coopersmith.

After the royal party departed, members of Congress and Madison Council members returned to the

(Cont. on p. 503)

Library Publishes Guide to Dutch Americana

Scholars exploring the Library's rich collection of Dutch Americana will welcome the new LC publication *New Netherland, 1609–1664: A Selective Bibliography* by Margrit B. Krewson, German/Dutch area specialist in the European Division.

The bibliography cites essential reference works as well as more obscure titles likely to escape the notice of researchers investigating the political, economic, social and military history of the Dutch in North America.

At the heart of the Library's Dutch American holdings is a wide range of works concerning the 17th century colony of New Netherland, which at its zenith stretched from the Connecticut River to the Delaware Bay and was home to some 20,000 settlers. Although the Dutch surrendered the colony to the British in 1664, their contribution to American culture has endured.

A Selective Bibliography

Margrit B. Krewson

Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
1995

The Dutch colonists enriched American English with such everyday terms as cookie, waffle, sleigh, landscape and furlough, and Dutch place names cover the maps of New York state and New Jersey. Descendants of the Dutch colony include many prominent families who have played a major role in politics and commerce and have been patrons of the arts. Three U.S. presidents, for example, trace their roots to New Netherland. Dutch Americans established Rutgers College, the New Brunswick Seminary and the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (one of the first institutions in the English-speaking world to grant degrees in science and engineering).

The bibliography presents almost 400 entries arranged alphabetically within thematic sections. The works were chosen from more than 10,000 titles in the Library's general collections and the special collections of the Rare Book and Special Collections, Geography and Map, Prints and Photographs and Manuscript divisions.

Citing works such as Van Clear Bachman's *Peltries or Plantations: The Economic Policies of the Dutch West India Company in New Netherland, 1623–1639* and the seven-volume ecclesiastical records of the Dutch Reformed Church in New York, the bibliography will appeal to historians and genealogists in particular. Nonspecialists, too, will be attracted by such tantalizing titles as *The Friendly Relations of the Indians and Early Dutch Settlers of the Upper Hudson* by Edward Johnson and Henri A. van der Zee's *A Sweet and Alien Land: The Story of Dutch New York.*

New Netherland, 1609–1664: A Selective Biography is available upon request from the Library of Congress, European Division, Washington, DC 20540–4830 or by calling (202) 707–5414.

Ecco Eco:

Umberto Eco Explains Readers' Role in Interpreting Texts

When reading a text, readers should base their interpretations on the reality created by the text, not on the world as we know it or want to know it, said Umberto Eco, the renowned, prize-winning author and essayist.

He spoke Nov. 8 as part of a series of lectures on "The Italian Influence on American Life," sponsored by the Library's Rare Book and Special Collections Division, the Embassy of Italy, the Italian Cultural Institute and the National Italian American Foundation.

"I think that a narrator, as well as a poet, should never provide interpretations of his own work," Mr. Eco said. It is irrelevant to ask the author because, after the author is finished with a work, it should stand on its own. The author wrote the text knowing that it would be interpreted in different ways by different readers.

Most readers are what Mr. Eco calls empirical readers. "The empirical reader is you, me, anyone, when we read a text."

Mr. Eco explained that empirical readers try to see how their lives fit into the story. He told the story of a friend who wrote him about some characters in one of his books that seemed to be his aunt and uncle. The man wrote, "Dear Umberto, I do not recall having told you the pathetic story of my uncle and aunt, but I think you were very indiscreet to use it for your novel."

"I wrote back to that friend of mine saying that they were my relations.

"He had been so absorbed by the story that he thought he could recognize some incidents that had happened to his uncle and his aunt.

"What happened to my friend?" Mr. Eco continued. "He had sought in my story something that was instead in his private memory. He was not interpreting the text, but rather using it."

Yusef El-Amin

Umberto Eco: "I think that a [writer] should never provide interpretations of his own work."

Yusef El-Amin

Carol Armbruster, French/Italian specialist, made the introductions.

The model reader, according to Mr. Eco, tries to fit the text into real life, instead of expecting real life to fit the text, as empirical readers do.

Mr. Eco learned of two model readers of his novel *Foucault's Pendulum* and their efforts to nestle the novel's fictional world into reality.

"Two students . . . came to show me a photograph album in which they had reconstructed the entire route taken by my character [Casaubon], having gone and photographed the places I had mentioned, one by one, at the same time of night. Given that at the end of the chapter Casaubon comes up out of the city drains and enters, through the cellar, an oriental bar full of sweating customers, beer jugs and greasy pits, they succeeded in finding that bar and took a photo of it.

"It goes without saying that that bar was an invention of mine, even though I had designed it thinking of the many bars of that kind. . . . But those two boys had undoubtedly discovered the bar described in the book. They wanted to transform the 'real' Paris into a place in my book."

Mr. Eco believes readers must respect the text as an entity. What readers want from a text is irrelevant. Readers should only expect to get from a text what is explicitly delivered. After reading the text and accepting it as a whole, readers can then begin to interpret it and apply their reality to it.

Authors can be empirical as well, and like empirical readers, authors must not use their interpretations of the text to justify one interpretation or another, but only to show how there are as many interpretations as there are readers, Mr. Eco said.

In conclusion, the author said that much of the creative process of writing is spontaneous or unconscious, and no matter what goes into the text, it must stand alone.

—Drew Linginfelter

Drew Linginfelter is an intern working in the Office of Communications.

The Future of Hungary:

Ambassador Says Democratic Transition Has Been Easier than Economic One

Hungary, long at the crossroads of marching armies, hopes to emerge from the post-communist era as a hub of international travel, finance and marketing, said its new ambassador to the United States, Gyorgy Banlaki, to a noontime audience in the Mary Pickford Theater on Sept. 14.

Dr. Banlaki set the stage for Hungary's future against the backdrop of its 1,100-year history during the lecture sponsored by the European Division. In his introduction, David Kraus, assistant chief of the division, highlighted the speaker's distinguished diplomatic career.

Yusef El-Amin

Ambassador Banlaki: Hungary has "happiest barracks" among Warsaw Pact nations.

Although he is new to the United States in the role of ambassador, Dr. Banlaki served as consul general in New York from 1986 to 1990 and in his earlier days graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in Washington, D.C.

A Ph.D. in economics, he spoke on "Hungary: the Pioneer of Change in the Post-Bipolar World." Dr. Banlaki traced the challenges Hungary has faced because of its unique geopolitical position in Central Europe.

"Through the centuries, Hungary has won battles and lost wars with crusaders, Mongols and other armies tramping through," said Dr. Banlaki. "It sure doesn't improve the landscape," he quipped.

In more recent decades, Hungary strived to become an innovator and be at the forefront of change within the confines of the Warsaw Pact, said the ambassador. "In the early 1980s, at a time when East-West relations had deteriorated with the Afghanistan debacle, Hungary, in a bold measure, joined the International Monetary Fund," he said. "During this time, Hungary also took pioneering steps in establishing diplomatic relations with South Korea and Israel."

The envoy noted that even before the fall of communism in 1991, a Hungarian law took effect in 1988 that began to privatize certain segments of the economy. "Personal income tax and the value added tax were already in place when Hungary moved toward a market economy," said Dr. Banlaki. He called Hungary the "happiest barracks" among the Warsaw Pact countries, because it was better off economically than many other East Bloc nations. "Now that they have switched to democracies, Hungary has lost this relative advantage," he said.

Yet the changes have resulted in a stable working democracy for Hungary, he added. "We have the perspective of two free elections in which the electorate went to the polls and changed the government," Dr. Banlaki said. "In the last election, the former government became the opposition, and the prior opposition put together the ruling coalition."

The ambassador is quick to admit that the reforms have not been a panacea for his country's problems. "The solution of one problem often results in numerous new problems," he said.

Dr. Banlaki touched upon the dilemma his country faces in the near future. "The transition to political democracy, rule of law and elections has been much easier to achieve than the economic transition," he said. The challenge, he added, is not to let the frustrations with the economy frustrate the political democracy before the new systems yield economic benefits.

He noted that there is no template for Hungary to follow in trying to develop a free enterprise system while slowly dismantling a state system that still manages many daily transactions. Yet he noted that Hungary has been successful in attracting $8.5 billion to $9 billion in foreign investment, with the United States as the largest foreign investor, at $3.5 billion.

Yusef El-Amin

David Kraus, assistant chief of the European Division, which sponsored the lecture

"Hungary has been able to draw in as much as all the other countries in the region combined," said Dr.

Banlaki in underscoring the crucial role foreign investment plays in developing private enterprise.

In another departure from the other newly emerging democracies, Hungary has steered away from the mass distribution of stocks in which the entire population becomes a shareholder. "Only time will tell which way is best," said the ambassador.

Looking ahead to the future, Hungary plans to complete the process of privatization with 75 to 80 percent of the gross domestic product in the private sector by 1998, according to Dr. Banlaki. Calling his government's goals "interrelated" rather than "prioritized," he said Hungary wants to join the international organizations of the West. "In plain English, we want to join NATO, the EU [European Union] and OECD [Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development]," he said. "We also want to improve our relations with the neighboring countries in the region and protect the rights of Hungarian minorities living beyond our borders."

Hungary has a vested interest in seeing the other countries in the region prosper, he said.

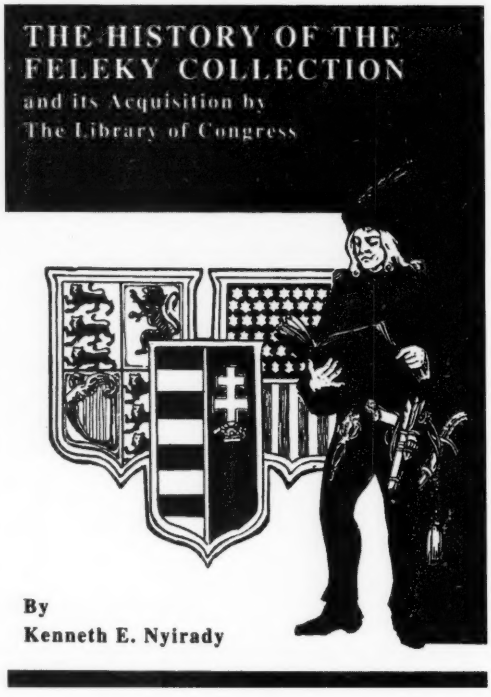
"For the first time in history, we don't see the enemy surrounding us, but rather we are at a new crossroads where Hungary can become an international banking and air traffic center."

—Joan Weeks

Joan Weeks is a public affairs specialist with the National Reference Service.

Guide to Feleky Collection Published

The European Division has just announced the publication of *The History of the Feleky Collection and Its Acquisition by the Library of Congress.*



The book, by Kenneth Nyirady, senior reference librarian in the division, chronicles Charles Feleky's effort to collect everything published in the English language about Hungary as well as the circuitous path the collection followed in coming to the Library.

The book describes the seed that geminated into a massive collection of more than 10,000 books and 15,000 periodical issues: a spur-of-the-moment purchase by Feleky of a work about Louis Kossuth, leader of the Hungarian revolt against the Habsburgs in 1848–49. During a walk in Pittsburgh in the mid-1890s, Feleky spied the work in a bookstore display and from that single purchase his passion developed.

Charles Feleky was born in Budapest in 1863, but came to the United States in 1885 as a musician. Later, he conducted the music for plays, especially an itinerent production of *Ben Hur*. His apartment in New York became his library, but after his death, his wife sold the floor-to-ceiling collection to the Hungarian National Museum, which established the Hungarian Reference Library in New York. By then, the Feleky library covered many academic disciplines.

When Hungary declared war on the United States in 1941, the collection was seized by the U.S. Office of Alien Property and put into storage, where it remained until purchased by the Library of Congress in 1953.

The book also describes the Hungarian Reference Library's biographical files, consisting of newspaper clippings, questionnaires and other materials on approximately 920 Hungarian Americans. In one of the appendixes, Mr. Nyirady includes an index to these biographies. These files were filmed by the Photoduplication Service and are available for purchase from the Library's Photoduplication Service, Washington, DC 20540–4570.

The History of the Feleky Collection and Its Acquistion by the Library of Congress is free on request from the European Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540–4830.

The Rule of Law:

The Essential Ingredient for a Democratic Eastern Europe

As Eastern Europe emerged from its totalitarian past, many countries without any experience in the rule of democratic law have found the task of creating stable governments extremely difficult, said former U.S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia John D. Scanlan. He addressed a noontime audience in the Mary Pickford Theater on Oct. 24.

Ambassador Scanlan told of the important contribution a large number of American lawyers and judges are making, under the auspices of the American Bar Association's (ABA) Central and East European Law Initiative (CEELI), to bring about the rule of law in former communist countries.

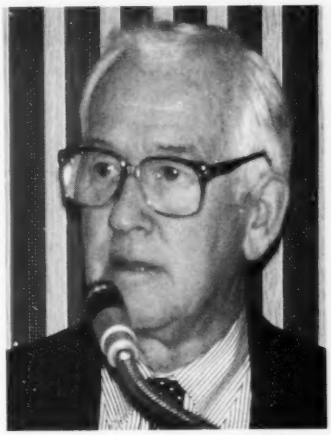
David Kraus, assistant chief of the European Division, which sponsored the event, underscored the envoy's expertise stemming from a 35-year career in Soviet and East European diplomatic affairs, which earned him a seat on CEELI's advisory board, even though he is not a lawyer.

Ambassador Scanlan has done tours of duty in Moscow, Warsaw and Belgrade. He has served as diplomat-in-residence at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and Deputy Commandant for International Affairs at the U.S. Army War College.

"For 50 years in Eastern Europe and more than 70 years in the Soviet Union, the people of the Soviet Empire had been the victims of a harsh system of arbitrary law designed to protect and promote the interests of the communist states," said Ambassador Scanlan. He explained how the protective system of the rule of law that safeguards the rights of citizens in their relations with the state was not permitted to exist and was an unknown concept to most East Europeans.

By assisting emerging democracies in modifying or restructuring laws and legal systems, CEELI makes legal expertise available through a cadre of American volunteer law professionals, said Ambassador Scanlan. "I had no idea of the scope of the program and the large number of American lawyers and judges who have dedicated their time to the program without receiving one cent of compensation," he said.

Participating lawyers and judges work *pro bono,* while host countries agree to cover certain local costs,



Yusef El-Amin

John Scanlan

enabling CEELI to operate with an extraordinary degree of financial leverage, Ambassador Scanlan said.

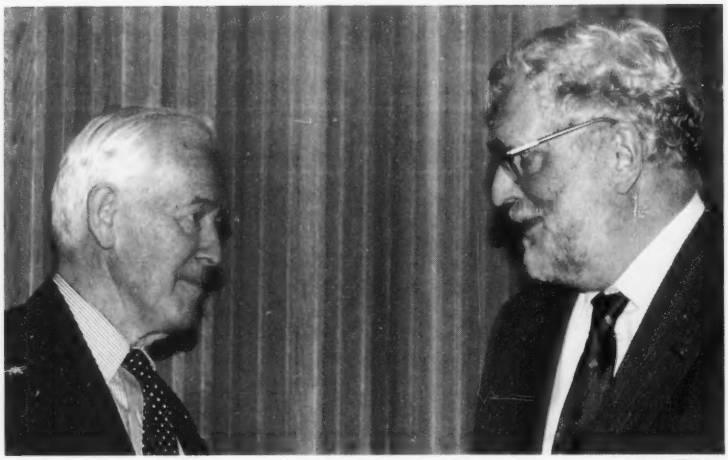
Founded in 1990 by Homer E. Moyer Jr. and Talbot D'Alemberte with $90,000 in seed money from the ABA Section on International Law and Practice, CEELI draws upon a high level of legal expertise from both the United States and Western Europe, he explained.

The Ambassador said CEELI recognizes that U.S. legal tradition offers only one approach for participating countries to consider. CEELI includes other perspectives, particularly those of Western Europe, in its program. There is, however, a great interest in U.S. legal tradition, particularly with regard to individual and human rights, allocations of governmental power and the free market system, he said.

Another key principle, which sets CEELI apart from other organizations operating in Eastern Europe, is that it exists for public service rather than as a device to garner business opportunities. "CEELI has adopted strict conflict of interest guidelines designed to ensure that technical advice offered by participants is neutral and that conflicts of interest, or appearance of conflicts, are avoided to the maximum extent possible," he said.

The organization provides lawyer liaison people who reside in the host country for at least one year, working with counterparts to identify legal reform priorities and coordinate CEELI's assistance, he explained. "CEELI currently has liaison [lawyers] stationed in Albania, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia and Ukraine," he said.

Technical Legal Assistance Workshops, which focus on a particular field of the law, are frequently requested. The organization also offers immediate assistance to host countries by circulating draft laws within and outside the United States for comment. In this manner, CEELI has been able to provide expert assessments of more than 200 draft laws, on such issues as antitrust, tax, foreign investment, criminal law and land use, he noted.



Yusef El-Amin

Ambassador Scanlan discusses democracy in Eastern Europe with David Kraus, assistant chief of the European Division, which sponsored Mr. Scanlan's lecture.

Ambassador Scanlan noted another CEELI component: Law schools in Central and Eastern Europe are paired with U.S. law schools in the Sister Law School Program. Faculty and student exchanges, joint research projects, assistance in library development, curricular reform and law school administration are included.

"This is genuinely a lean and highly effective program of dedicated professional assistance in the area, which, in my opinion, will decide the fate of the former communist countries of Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the fate of East-West stability and security," concluded Ambassador Scanlan.

He invited those interested in further information about the organization to contact its executive director, Mark Ellis, through the ABA Washington office. —*Joan Weeks*

Joan Weeks is a public affairs specialist for the Library's National Reference Service.

Library of Congress Membership Available:

Includes Subscription to* Civilization *Magazine

Associate membership in the Library of Congress, which includes six issues of *Civilization,* is available for annual dues of $20 (see LC *Information Bulletin,* May 2, 1994).

To receive *Civilization,* call (800) 829-0427 to pay by credit card, or send check or money order, payable to *L.O.C. Associates,* to:

National Membership Department
Library of Congress
P.O. Box 420235
Palm Coast, FL 32142-0235

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

ZIP Code _____

Information Bulletin 84LC01

ATTENTION LC ALUMNI

On Wednesday, Dec. 20, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington will welcome LC alumni (retirees) back to the Library for traditional holiday festivities. The day's activities will begin at 11 a.m. with a holiday program in the Great Hall of the Thomas Jefferson Building and will be followed by a luncheon at noon for LC alumni only (retired staff members) in the Montpelier Room, sixth floor, James Madison Memorial Building.

Invitations were mailed to LC alumni during the week of Nov. 27. If you have not received yours, call the Office of Special Events and Public Programs at (202) 707-5218.

NOTICE

This is the final issue of the LC *Information Bulletin* for 1995. Due to the government shutdown last month, the Nov. 29 issue was not published.

News from the Center for the Book:

New Projects Developed with Preservation Directorate

The importance of taking proper care of books is emphasized in four striking bookmarks recently produced jointly by the Library's Preservation Directorate and its Center for the Book.

"We are stepping up our outreach efforts," said Diane Kresh, head of the Preservation Directorate. "The bookmarks are the first of several projects we are developing with the Center for the Book. They are available in many of the Library's reading rooms and from both the Preservation Directorate and the Center for the Book."

The brightly colored bookmarks present the following messages: "Turn Pages, Not Corners," "Protect Our Heritage," "Write on Paper, Not Pages," "Every Hand Makes a Difference," "Photocopy with Care," "I Cannot Live Without Books," "Books Change Lives" and "Shape Your Future—Read!"

A second cooperative venture is a Preservation Awareness Workshop, which will be held on April 16, 1996, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Mumford Room on the sixth floor of the Madison Building. Free and open to the public, the workshop will be the Library's major commemoration of National Library Week. Members of the public are invited to learn about preserving family treasures, such as photographs and letters.

Preservation Directorate staff members will demonstrate different types of enclosures and boxes for storing material and provide information about the damage caused by humidity, temperature, light and atmospheric pollution on paper-based material and on the different types of boxes, folders and enclosures now available.

A wide range of companies that manufacture and distribute conservation products will participate, distributing instructive information about preservation and conservation issues and practices, as well as product samples. For information, write or call Amparo Torres, Preservation Directorate, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540–4500, (202) 707–1026.

☐ **"Books & Beyond" Noontime Talks To Begin.** On Jan. 30, the Center for the Book will sponsor the first in a continuing series of noontime talks by authors of books that have a particular relevance to the Library of Congress.

"The speakers will be authors of recent books that are based on the Library's collections or speak directly to issues of concern to the Library and its programs," said John Y. Cole, the center's director. "The Center for the Book invites all Library of Congress divisions and offices to suggest potential speakers." Although the primary audience is Library of Congress staff, the talks will be open to the public. They will be publicized in the staff newspaper, *The Gazette*, the LC *Information Bulletin* and the LC "Calendar of Events."

The first speaker will be Jane Aiken Rosenberg, author of *The Nation's Great Library: Herbert Putnam and the Library of Congress, 1899–1939* (University of Illinois Press, 1993). Her talk will take place at noon on Monday, Jan. 30, in Dining Room A. Ms. Rosenberg, a program officer at the National Endowment for the Humanities, will discuss the book, her research at the Library of Congress and Herbert Putnam as a personality.

☐ **Nebraska Anthology Available.** *Chasing the River: An Anthology by Young Nebraska Writers,* a 155-page book published in conjunction with the Fourth Annual Nebraska Literature Festival held in Omaha in 1994, is available for $7 prepaid from the Nebraska Center for the Book, Lincoln City Libraries, 136 S. 14th St., Lincoln, NE 68508.

Information also is available about the activities of the Nebraska center. Annual individual memberships are $15; organizational memberships cost $25. Members receive copies of the newsletter NCB Quarterly. In addition to sponsorship of the annual Nebraska Literature Festival (held in 1995 at the University of Nebraska in Kearney) and the annual Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival, the Nebraska center presents two annual awards: the Mildred Bennett Award for support of Nebraska's Literary Heritage

and the Jane Geske Award for organizational support of Nebraska's community of the book.

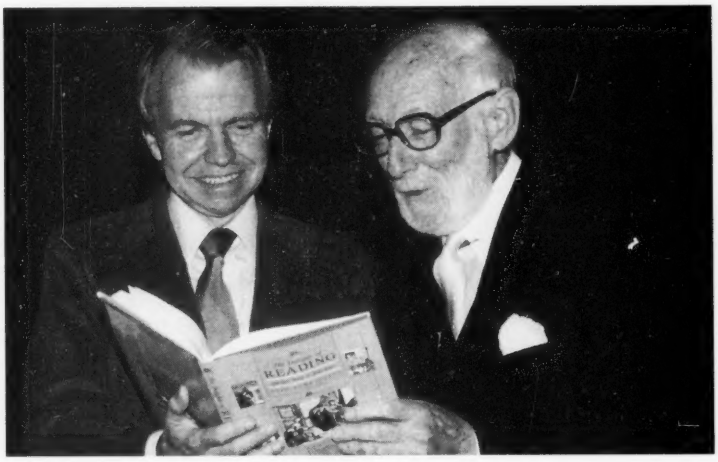
☐ **"Wisconsin Authors Speak."** During the first half of 1995, 10 programs featuring Wisconsin authors were sponsored throughout the state under the auspices of the Wisconsin Center for the Book, which is a project of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters. A wide range of authors—children's and adult, poets and academics—received grants to present the programs, which were co-sponsored by nonprofit agencies. Attendance at the events ranged from 33 to the 710 people who enjoyed one of the writing workshops presented by author and illustrator Gretchen Will Mayo.

Author of works such as *Star Tales, Earthmaker's Tales* and *Meet Tricky Coyote,* Ms. Mayo spoke at the Brillion Public Library, Reedsville Elementary School, Sparta Middle School and Sparta High School.

Other presenters were: University of Wisconsin-Madison poet Ron Wallace, whose collection of poems *Time's Fancy* won the 1995 Banta Award for the best book by a Wisconsin writer. He spoke at the Brossard Memorial Library at Spring Green; author and illustrator Lois Ehlert, whose "Shape Your Future—READ!" poster is featured in the current Center for the Book national reading promotion campaign, spoke with schoolchildren at the New Auburn Elementary School; Larry Watson, author of the 1994 Banta Award book, *Montana 1948,* and a new novel, *Justice,* read at the Janesville Public Library; Denise Sweet, a member of the Anishinabe (Ojibwe) tribe at White Earth, Mich., offered a poetry seminar at the University of Wisconsin Center-Marinette.

Poet J. D. Whitney presented a reading to students and faculty at the University of Wisconsin Center-Baraboo; Millie Stanley, author of *The Heart of John Muir's World: Wisconsin, Family and Wilderness Discovery,* presented her work at the Platteville City Hall and at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville; Peter Roop, author of more than two dozen children's books, spoke at the Pardeeville Elementary School; and Michael Roberts, a member of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, offered poetry and a discussion of his writing techniques at the University of Wisconsin Center-Waukesha.

The "Wisconsin Authors Speak" program, part of the Center for the Book's Literary Heritage of the States project, was supported by a grant from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund.



John Cole (left) and Otto Bettmann in a 1987 photo; Dr. Cole will interview Dr. Bettmann during a Smithsonian Associates program.

☐ **Otto Bettmann to Lecture.** A longtime friend and supporter of the Center for the Book, Otto L. Bettmann will present an illustrated program, "Images of a Century," at the Smithsonian Institution at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 11, 1996. As part of the program, Dr. Bettmann, founder of the renowned Bettmann Archive and a respected scholar and graphic historian, will be interviewed by Center for the Book Director John Cole.

In 1987, for the benefit of the Center for the Book, Bettmann compiled *The Delights of Reading: Quotes, Notes & Anecdotes* (David R. Godine Publisher, 1987), a book celebrated with a reception and exhibit in the Library's Great Hall (see photo).

Other popular books by Bettmann, who is now 92 years old, are *Our Literary Heritage* (with Van Wyck Brooks), which was published in 1956 by Dutton, and *The Good Old Days—They Were Terrible!* (Random House, 1974).

Dr. Bettmann's most recent book, a tribute to his musical background and training, is *Johann Sebastian Bach: As His World Knew Him* (Carol Publishing Group, 1995). For information about the Feb. 11 program, call the Smithsonian Associates at (202) 357-3030.

☐ **Book Design and Printing History in Idaho.** The October 1995 (Vol. 2, No. 2) issue of the *Idaho Center for the Book Newsletter,* published as a colorful broadside, focuses on book design, Idaho presses and news from the Idaho center. Articles include: "Designing Light," by Emily McGowan, which desribes her work in designing the forthcoming *A Light in the Window of Idaho: Boise's Public Library, 1895–1995;* "The Caxton Printers Ltd.: A Tree of Knowledge and Industry" by Pam

Hardenbrook; "Limberlost Press: Letterpressing the Language of the Tribe" by Rick Ardinger; and "The Redneck Press & the Redneck Review of Literature" by Penelope Reedy.

In the same issue, Director Tom Trusky announced a grant from the Idaho Commission on the Arts for the production of an English-Spanish catalog and video to accompany "Booker's Dozen," the center's 1996 statewide traveling exhibition, and the availability of a new Idaho Center for the Book video documentary, "Journeys of the Lapwal Mission Press, a 25-minute history of the first press in Idaho and the Pacific Northwest. The video is available for $19.95 plus $3 for shipping from the Bookstore, Boise State University, 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725. For information, call (800) 992-TEXT.

Free subscriptions to the *ICB Newsletter*, which is published in April and October, are available from the Idaho Center for the Book, Boise State University, Boise, ID 83725.

The Library of Congress Mission to Europe was instrumental in building LC collections during wartime.

☐ **LC History Spotlight: The "Library of Congress Mission to Europe."** One of the most significant cooperative projects undertaken by the Library of Congress was the "Cooperative Acquisitions Project for Wartime Publications," which lasted from August 1945 to September 1948. During World War II (as in World War I), American libraries and research institutions were almost completely cut off from the European book market. However, as a government institution, the Library of Congress was in an advantageous position, for many of its overseas contacts remained intact. With support from the library and research communities and the approval of the State Department, in 1945 the War Department and the Library formed the Library of Congress Mission to Europe to locate and forward "the bookstocks believed to be accumulated in Germany (especially in the Russian zone) as a result of prewar orders placed by American libraries."

Twenty-six American librarians and document specialists, including national leaders such as Harry Miller Lydenberg, David H. Clift and Scott Adams, as well as LC employees Julius Allen and Richard S. Hill, eventually were employed abroad for varying periods to purchase publications from the war years, to screen and ship materials obtained from the German army and Nazi Party sources, and "to locate and evacuate stocks of books held by German dealers for American libraries."

Multiple copies were obtained, especially of books "of general reference value," and LC also made available for distribution a wide range of duplicate foreign publications.

Elaborate distribution mechanisms were developed, including a classification schedule with no less than 254 categories, and a system of priorities for participating libraries. Distribution was complicated. According to Robert Downs, who served as chairman of the Committee to Advise on the Distribution of Foreign Acquisitions, "One hundred fifteen libraries asked for some 5,000 priorities in the 254 classes." Priorities were disputed, cost-sharing and financial assessments were debated, and ethical questions were raised and resolved.

By 1948 approximately 2 million items (mostly books and periodicals) had been shipped, with approximately one-third coming to LC (including the so-called "Hitler Library," now in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, and the rest to other libraries. Surplus items went to the U.S. Book Exchange.

The cooperative wartime acquisitions project was important not only in building substantive collections of research materials, especially at the Library, but also in providing lessons for future large-scale cooperative acquisitions and bibliographical and cataloging endeavors.

It also was an early example of government-private sector cooperation and helped establish the Library of Congress as a leader among research libraries. The story is told in detail in the 1946 *Annual Report of the Librarian of Congress*, pp. 262–267,

and in Robert B. Downs's article, "Wartime Co-operative Acquisitions" in the July 1949 issue of *The Library Quarterly*.

☐ **"Dear Author" Contributors Read at Borders Bookstores.** To celebrate National Children's Book Week in mid-November, young contributors to Conari Press's *Dear Author: Students Write About the Books That Changed Their Lives* (see LC *Information Bulletin*, Oct. 2, 1995) read their essays at Borders Bookstores in Washington, Detroit, Chicago, San Francisco and Lansing, Mich. Two contributors from the Washington area, Alicia Orgram, age 13, from Kensington, Md., and 14-year-old Linetta Alley from Bridgewater, Va., read at a Borders store in Washington on Nov. 4. They were introduced by Center for the Book Director John Y. Cole, who also described the "Letters About Literature" contest with *Read* magazine that stimulated the essays. *Dear Author* is available in bookstores across the United States.

☐ **The New Jersey Connection Inspires Young Readers.** One of the Center for the Book's most energetic and effective reading promotion partners, the New Jersey Connection, has issued its 1996 book of entry forms, suggestions and reading awards.

The 10-page booklet, which celebrates the 1995–1996 national reading promotion theme "Shape Your Future—READ!," contains suggestions for using the theme; an entry form for New Jersey's "Enthusiastic Teacher or Librarian Award"; an entry form and rules for the 1996 "Students' Writings About Reading" essay contest; an entry form and rules for the 1996 "Enthusiastic Reader Award"; a sample Certificate of Recognition for "Enthusiastic Readers"; and a form for gathering information about "readathons" throughout New Jersey in 1996.

Ann Helmstetter is the executive director of the New Jersey Connection, a statewide organization that receives support from more than 20 New Jersey corporations and 18 state educational or civic groups.

The nine elementary, middle and high school students designated as "Enthusiastic Reader Winners" in 1995 were honored at the New Jersey Library Association's annual conference and visited Gov. Christine Whitman in Trenton. They also received a U.S. savings bond from Ronald McDonald's Children's Charities and a selection of books from Troll Books.

The New Jersey Connection also has produced a 60-page *1995 Book of New Jersey Students' Writings About Reading*. For information, write the New Jersey Connection, Middle School, 360 Union St., Hackensack, NJ 07601.

Testimony *(Cont. from p. 487)*
fallen seriously behind in several key areas: human resource management, financial systems and clearing up the vast backlog of uncataloged materials in the Library's collections and ensuring that those collections were under bibliographic control. These were basic practical matters that had to be addressed—and resolved over the long term—even as we explored new technology and new ways to bring the Library's resources and services into the 21st century.

First, we had to free our human resources procedures from the burdens of the past and bring the Library clearly into a system that promoted equal opportunity for all. This effort included reaching an equitable settlement of the *Cook* class action suit that originated as an EEO complaint in 1975. The Library could not begin to develop a work force to meet the demands of the next century until we had addressed the grievances of the plaintiffs, who, as a class, now account for approximately 39 percent of our employees. The U.S. District Court approved a settlement in the *Cook* case last Sept. 22.

Long before that date, the Library had undertaken a wide range of remedial actions to ensure equity and greater opportunity for all employees: training programs, tuition support and leadership and development programs that few other federal agencies can match. Following an appeals period, the settlement calls for the disbursement of some $8.5 million as monetary relief to some 2,000 individuals. The greatest gains to the plaintiffs may lie, however, as the court recognized, in the revised selection procedures we have put in place. The Library can now move forward.

Second, I had to establish a top-quality financial management system. Shortly after I took office in 1987, I asked the General Accounting Office to conduct the first financial statement audit in the long history of the Library of Congress. I then hired the Library's first director of Financial Services. In 1991 GAO issued its report with, as I had expected, plenty of negative findings.

In order to correct the problems identified by GAO, we undertook a costly, long-range and comprehensive makeover of the Library's entire outmoded and nonintegrated financial system—the essential prerequisite to establishing auditable financial statements. As noted during the passage of the 1990 Chief Financial Officer Act, other federal agencies were in similar straits.

We developed our own financial management improvement plan in 1990, even before the final GAO report was issued, and that plan is on schedule, though not yet complete. Four years after the GAO report was issued, the Library has implemented six of the GAO's eight recommendations and completed remedial action on 16 of its 19 findings.

There is no statutory requirement for another financial statement audit of the Library, but our plans have always called for annual audits. Our

Craig Hobson

Dr. Billington: "The Library has made significant progress in [its] 3½-year effort to improve the security of its unparalleled collections."

own schedule for audits beginning in 1996 proved to be right in line with the timetable later mandated for the 24 CFO executive branch agencies by the Government Management Reform Act of 1994. The Library now plans to begin this annual audit process in fiscal year 1995—one year ahead of our original plan and of the deadline for executive branch agencies.

I ask that a detailed account of our progress in addressing the GAO recommendations and findings be appended to my testimony along with a summary chart of our progress.

Reducing the Backlog

Third, I wanted to make sure that all of our collections, now totaling some 108 million items, would be brought under bibliographic control. A book or document or photograph or map that is uncataloged is, for all practical purposes, useless to the researcher since it usually cannot be located. We had inherited a massive, accumulated backlog of uncataloged items, mostly nonbook materials, including rare prints, photographs, maps, manuscripts and large collections of major documents like the NAACP archives.

We set up timetables and priorities for this long range processing task in 1991; and the project has since then involved thousands of Library staff, new techniques and special work teams. Our staff persisted despite hiring freezes, staff cutbacks and formidable technical difficulties. Many volunteered extra time and effort. They reduced the backlog that had peaked in 1988 at 40.5 million items to 23 million items by June 30, 1995, for a reduction of 42 percent.

At the same time the Library has kept current with its new acquisitions to the collections so that new arrearages are not being added to old ones. The inspector general has scheduled an audit of the collections arrearage project for the fourth quarter of FY 1996. How fast we go in the future in this major endeavor, as in others, depends in large part on continued financial support from Congress.

These three big, basic, high-priority efforts—dealing with people, money and the collections—have been repeatedly emphasized in our guidance to managers; and they have been strongly supported by Congress. The initiatives received extra funds, people and management attention. If progress has come more slowly than we had hoped in some areas, the staff has made extraordinary efforts, as well as steady and often remarkable progress in dealing with these long-neglected problems.

Collections Security: Closing the Stacks

Collections *security* soon became another high-priority area. When staff members alerted me to the full extent of theft and mutilation, I appointed a committee in 1991 to study the problem and propose solutions. After Library police apprehended three individual thieves and slashers who had been removing books and valuable illustrations from books in the Jefferson Building stacks, I ordered the stacks closed to the public on March 30, 1992.

It was not a popular move—and was generally opposed by many employees and by many scholars. Closing the stacks was a necessary but not sufficient action to assure improved security, so I concurrently created the first Library-wide collections security task force to develop security measures comprehensively and aggressively throughout the Library. I will present here the highlights of the Library's efforts to improve physical security.

The Library has made significant progress in this 3½-year effort to improve the security of its unparalleled collections. We have worked diligently to continue serving well the research needs of Congress and the public while reemphasizing our historical duty to preserve and protect the items entrusted to our care. After I ordered the book stacks closed in 1992, the Library began to train visiting researchers to use our

new and user-friendly computerized catalog to access our collections and to compile bibliographies without direct access to the stacks.

The Library has never permitted public access to the storage areas for our special-format collections (maps, manuscripts, music, prints and photographs, rare books). In addition, we have strictly limited Library of Congress staff access to the general book collections, in the Adams and Jefferson buildings, except when assigned duties require such access to perform their work. The members of the staff with regular access have been reduced from more than 4,000 in 1992 to 492 today.

Protecting the Collections

In the wake of the thefts and mutilations discovered in 1992 and evidence unearthed by the Library staff of the vulnerability of the general book collections, experienced Library staff and managers developed a "Plan for Enhancing Collections Security." The 1992 plan was updated and modified in 1994 in light of our progress, our resources and our ongoing commitment to high-quality public service. I have attached a status report on the collections security initiatives contained in the plan. The Library has not only dramatically reduced stack access, but instituted and required staff to wear ID cards and stack passes at all times. Staff working in the stacks and Library police patrolling the stacks can now identify everyone in the stacks.

We have controlled the loan of materials and enforced rules of conduct in Library reading rooms. We are developing additional ways to safeguard items we serve to users in our reading rooms. The procedures vary, depending on the nature and value of the materials. Techniques include counting and examining materials before and after use. This process imposes a burden on both the librarian and the researcher, but we have no choice.

All readers requesting the use of collection materials are now required to present photo identification to Library desk staff. We are installing and expect to have operational early in 1996 an automated reader registration system that will issue a user card and store a digitized photograph and signature of each reader. Information from the system will eventually be available to Library staff in each reading room.

Doors in the Jefferson and Adams buildings bookstacks are now electronically controlled and staff must use their IDs to access the stack areas. Jefferson north stacks were electronically secured in December 1993; Jefferson south stacks in August 1994; and Adams stacks in October 1995. The stacks are closed to all staff except those who work in them or need to access materials directly in order to perform their jobs. Library police have increased their patrols of stack areas.

The Library has reconfigured many of its reading rooms to improve sightlines for staff on duty, enabling them to monitor readers and their use of Library materials. Our staff in special collections areas in many cases now limit the number of special-format items that may be used by a reader at any one time. The Library prohibits the removal of materials by a reader from one reading room to another to prevent losses in transit.

Surveillance cameras have been installed in the Law, Manuscript, Music, Rare Book and Newspaper and Current Periodical reading rooms. We are putting in 113 more cameras in reading rooms this fiscal year. Monitoring the tapes from these cameras identifies readers who may have damaged materials in use or stolen them. We also monitor access in high-risk areas of the book collections. High-risk materials are kept in 117 secured, segregated areas within the books collections that we have enclosed in cages and recently made even more secure with tamper-proof locking devices. Access to caged areas is restricted to only a few staff.

Craig Hobson

Rep. Packard asks a question of the Librarian.

Alarm Gates and Motion Detectors

The Library also limits the type and amount of personal belongings readers may bring into our reading rooms. We have opened a free

cloakroom for readers in the Jefferson Building and are planning for larger and mandatory cloakroom facilities in all three buildings. We will implement mandatory use of the existing cloakroom in the Jefferson Building by late 1995 or early 1996. Most special collection reading rooms now have lockers available for reader use. We intend to restrict more severely the types of personal belongings that may be brought into reading rooms as soon as we have adequate locker facilities.

Theft detection is a key ingredient in our security system. More than 3 million theft detection strips have been installed in books and other high-risk items. Alarm gates that react to these strips have been installed at each Library entrance and in the Newspaper and Current Periodical reading room. Additional installations are planned for the exits to all reading rooms, pending conclusion of negotiations with the Library's labor organizations.

The Library's efforts have significantly reduced the amount of damaged library materials retrieved from rest rooms, wastebaskets, eating facilities and other unsupervised areas in Library buildings. Commercial binders now install theft detection devices in Library materials sent to them for binding.

The Library's Landover Center Annex, a big warehouse in Landover, Md., that houses less-used items and our logistics activities, has been made more secure. We have installed electronic card-controlled entrances to key areas and placed motion detectors and video surveillance cameras in collections storage areas.

Most of our activities at Landover are scheduled to move to a new specially designed complex at Fort Meade, Md., during the next several years. We have bar-coded all the equipment and two-thirds of the furniture in the Library.

In addition to physical security measures, the Library has spent considerable time and effort planning an on-line item tracking system. We expect to begin acquiring such a system by the end of 1996, a system that will not only keep track of new items added to our collections but also 12 million items now recorded on 3-by-5-inch cards. Another expanding database is already helping our Loan Division keep track of items loaned to congressional staff, government agencies, Library staff and others. The new technologies help us control our collections and make it easier for us to identify and investigate losses.

"We have controlled the loan of materials and enforced rules of conduct in Library reading rooms. This imposes a burden on both the librarian and the researcher, but we have no choice."

While we have achieved a great deal, we recognize many areas that still require action, such as establishing the automated reader registration system, installing theft detection gates in additional reading room entrances and video surveillance cameras in more reading rooms and obtaining greater control over all the loading and processing areas through which an item passes between its arrival at the Library and its permanent placement as a bound and cataloged item in the stacks.

Protecting Materials on the Move

Library materials move through acquisition, cataloging, binding and labeling operations in preparation for use in the Library's reading rooms. At the earliest stages, these materials are unmarked. Sound recordings and computer software are thought to be particularly tempting targets for thieves—and are thus closely monitored at all stages of the process. But total surveillance throughout the process for all the collections would be prohibitively expensive and cumbersome. We have made some progress in dealing with this problem through the Copyright Office, which has arranged with compact disk distributors to install theft detection targets before materials are shipped to us.

The Library's Preservation Office has recently identified a preprinted, bar-coded, pressure-sensitive label that has an embedded magnetic security device that is compatible with our current theft detection system. Such a label would provide piece-level control as well as theft deterrence and detection. We will be testing the label and its use for book materials, as well as for a variety of other formats, starting in January. We are also undertaking a related campaign to affix better ownership markings to our older, nonbook collections. The Library can provide important leadership in the research and development of techniques to deal with these problems, which concern all libraries.

Our progress has been slowed by the renovation and restoration of the Jefferson and Adams buildings—buildings that were never designed with security in mind and that had to be continuously occupied and used with staff being periodically relocated during this protracted process. We are working now to craft immediate, workable interim solutions while ensuring the safety of staff working in these buildings. We will, of course, continue and intensify our security training for staff, providing research assistance to readers who use our materials in a secured environment.

Implementation of many measures for securing the collections has also been delayed by the Library's statutory responsibility to negotiate the impact of these critical initiatives with the Library's three labor organizations. Putting into place a pilot KNOGO theft detection gate in our outer perimeter took from October

1993 to March 1995, or 18 months of negotiation.

Recent Efforts

As soon as allegations were brought to my attention this summer that there might be new thefts and mutilations, I immediately called in an outside consultant, the Computer Sciences Corp. (CSC), to recommend any immediate measures that seemed necessary, and I then engaged them to conduct an expert, independent analysis of our overall security program.

As I testified before this committee in 1993, the Library had already planned such an outside review for 1996. After receiving the consultant's best short-term advice in August, the Library took immediate action to implement some of their preliminary recommendations: increasing police patrols of the stack areas, further reducing authorized stack access, appointing an acting security director with line authority over all security operations and establishing a security hot line.

I am confident that CSC's review will ratify these and other actions we have taken or have under way and will provide valuable added guidance as we address the remaining initiatives in our plan. I would ask that the report of CSC's first assessment based on an initial, two-day survey and the scope of work and deliverables for its second, more extensive contract both be made part of the record.

Congress has approved a Library request to reprogram up to $300,000 from FY 1995 appropriations in order to undertake the CSC contract. As the Library continues its work with CSC, further adjustments in our appropriations will be necessary. The question of resources must be addressed. The Library will make requests in accordance with priorities developed after the CSC report, since it will clearly not be possible to do everything at once.

"High-risk materials are kept in 117 secured, segregated areas within the books collections that we have enclosed in cages and recently made even more secure with tamper-proof locking devices."

The allegations of theft and mutilations that were brought to my attention in August were made not by outsiders but by Library staff, who also suggested that supervisors might be involved in a coverup and/or in a retaliatory personnel action. These allegations are under investigation by the Library's own assistant inspector general for investigations with the help of the FBI.

I have directed the Assistant Inspector General to leave no stone unturned—and to report any suspected criminal findings directly to the Justice Department and any seeming administrative failings directly to me. I will carry out appropriate administrative actions when the investigation is complete.

What has gone largely unreported is the expertise and dedication of the 250 collections management staff who represent the Library's first line of security for its collections in the stacks. They are responsible for handling the more than 750,000 volumes used by researchers in the Main Reading Room and elsewhere each year. These people are on the scene and are empowered to stop and question any suspicious person or activity in the stacks and then alert police. These employees tell us that, in contrast to the days before the stacks were closed, they have found in recent months almost no evidence of recent criminal activity—such as the razor blades and shreds of paper that were found in 1992.

The Library may rightly be criticized for the past management of its security functions—notably for the lack of coordination in collections security between the Library's police and its curators and for failures in its reporting of findings. We now have all investigative functions and all reporting on security centralized in the IG's office, and we have clearly established our essential liaison with the U.S. Attorney's office. We welcome the recommendations that CSC has already made and look forward to the completion of their work when we will be making any necessary further changes.

Magnitude of the Task

Even in a perfect world, the Library would face enormous challenges in securing its collections. The collections comprise 16.5 million books and 91.5 items in special collections. Some 48,000 items arrive on the average each workday—not just books but federal documents, duplicate materials, copyright deposits of all kinds. Of these, about 4,600 items are retained and processed by many individuals in many locations before they are put on shelf. New collections are being added all the time.

Physically, the Library's collections are housed on 532 miles of shelves. The so-called general book collections—10 million books—are used daily by about 500 members of the Library's staff to serve Congress and the nation. We have available a total police force of 106 individuals to guard all entrances to our buildings and patrol all stacks. Imagine driving from Washington to Detroit, every inch of the drive lined with books and you can begin to understand the challenge we face.

The Jefferson and Adams buildings were not designed with security in mind and our librarians, like those of other major institutions, were trained in "service," not "security." All of us are coping with a new environment. But I have made it clear ever since 1992 that the Library will tolerate no kind of loss or mutilation; and our own recent survey indicates that the Library of

Congress is far ahead of other major libraries in openly assessing, recognizing and comprehensively trying to address the security threat that all great repositories now face in a far more serious way than ever before.

Collections security is a top priority for the Library and its managers and a priority that must be sustained by resources. The Library has not received all of the increased funding for collections security it has requested. However, the Library reallocated $2.5 million with congressional approval to augment the security outlays that were appropriated so that the highest priority tasks, such as installing cameras, could get done.

Despite limited resources, we have done much. We have secured the entire outer perimeters of our three highest-priority buildings on Capitol Hill using locks, electronics, cameras and human intervention. We have introduced new technologies and new procedures that will allow us better to control and protect materials moving inside those perimeters and within all of our most vulnerable reading rooms. We have at the same time avoided seriously curtailing our service to users despite a modest reduction in reading room hours. Indeed, shutting the stacks has markedly improved our ability to deliver books to the reading rooms where the all-important not-on-shelf rate has decreased from 23 percent to 18 percent. Readers now get access to 5 percent more books than in the past in the reading rooms—the only places where the vast majority of our readers have ever used them.

Investigating the Mutilations

Based on available information and the preponderant judgment of those who work most closely and continuously with the collections, I do not believe that there has been a large number, let alone an increase, of thefts and mutilations as has been suggested. Specific instances of mutilations that occurred during 1993 and 1994 remain under investigation by the Library's assistant inspector general and the FBI and we know of one serious theft since August (sheet music), which is also under investigation. Between Aug. 3 and Oct. 30, Library staff reported further *discoveries* of mutilations of 86 books, none of them valuable, rare or determined to be recent.

"The Library can provide important leadership in the research and development of techniques to deal with these problems, which concern all libraries."

The Library's management of collections security will, in the future, integrate surveillance, police presence, investigatory techniques and statistical reports in combination with curatorial and preservation expertise. Only with the blending of such expertise can security personnel form policies soundly based on the reliable differentiation between normal damage on the one hand and intentional mutilation on the other; and between mutilations that occurred long ago and those that occurred recently.

The Library's special collections of manuscripts, rare books, prints and photographs have never been at such grave risk as the general book collections. Access to these special materials always was and still remains highly restricted. But the general book collections of some 10 million titles contain thousands of valuable illustrated volumes that have provided a tempting target to knowledgeable thieves, who razored out plates and sold them to dealers at high prices. We caught three of these people before the stacks were ordered closed.

Starting in late 1991, a staff group headed by curator Jane Van Nimmen began compiling a list of mutilated books that had been discovered and reported by staff, examining each volume to see which plates were missing, how much the damaged books were worth and whether replacement books were available elsewhere. This effort supplied the books that I was shown before I ordered the stacks shut and that I displayed in testimony before this committee in June 1993. At that time, I estimated that some 500 books were involved.

The staff group reported that the mutilations they discovered from 1991 through 1994 totaled approximately $1.8 million in replacement value. This figure has been hastily cited and repeatedly misrepresented—originally in *Time* magazine, more recently in a *Roll Call* editorial—as indicating that $1.8 million worth of books had been mutilated "since 1991." There is no evidence for such a conclusion. The damaged books were *discovered* during that period, but they could have been mutilated at any time since they were acquired, going back to 1897.

Neither the FBI nor others we have consulted have been able to pinpoint forensically when the books were mutilated. We are trying to develop some scientific detection techniques; but, in the meantime, there are a variety of indicators that most of the harm was actually done prior to the closing of the stacks and the heightening of security in 1992.

Inventorying the Books

We expect to continue improving our performance. We have in place many tools that were not available in 1992: book tagging, arrearage reduction, CSC, reader identification and registration, KNOGO gates, reconfigured reading rooms, reduced staff access, elimination of public access, electronic protection of the entire stack perimeter. We have inventoried 16.5 of the 19 classes in the general book collections

and expect to complete the inventory in 1998 if staffing levels remain stable.

So far, we find an initial apparent "missing" rate of 3 percent, not all necessarily attributable to theft; searches continue to find some of the missing books, and we expect that more will be discovered now that the stacks are closed and books are being more systematically examined for tagging. But many more tasks remain to be done: an automated shelflist; a baseline, item level condition survey of costly art folio collections and illustrated volumes; individual markings of valuable Library of Congress items without decreasing their value; and better control of new acquisitions through bar-coding.

Far from detracting from our security efforts, the National Digital Library Program will significantly help with the long-term security of many of our most valuable collections. As we digitize more unique items for the National Digital Library and put them on the Internet, fewer such items will be at risk from physical handling or mutilation by users. The same added protection comes when we microfilm collections, such as presidential papers, and thus provide researchers with "surrogates" for the valuable original items.

Unfinished Business

In summary, we have much unfinished business, but are pretty much on schedule with both our long-term plan for collections security and our financial management improvement system.

Human resources poses special problems. Our revised selection process is designed to ensure equity in hiring and promotion. It has resulted in dramatic improvements in the racial and ethnic hiring profile for administrative and professional positions. Our senior and midlevel ranks are already far more diverse than they were in 1988, despite hiring freezes, budget austerity and fewer job openings. In other areas of Human Resources, there is much work yet to be done. The complexity of our competitive selection hiring process and the enormous flood of job applicants still result in excessive delay and cost.

"We expect to continue improving our performance. We have in place many tools that were not available in 1992: book tagging, arrearage reduction, reader identification and registration, [security] gates, elimination of public access, electronic protection of the entire stack perimeter."

The size of the Library's EEO caseload and the time required to process EEO complaints have long been unsatisfactory. The hiring of a seasoned professional, in September 1995, as director of the EEO and Dispute Resolution programs will bring greater focus and accountability.

The Library has already issued a contract to accelerate EEO investigations and will recruit two additional EEO officers. Following concerns expressed by both employees and members of Congress, we have issued a new regulation governing fitness-for-duty procedures. These provisions conform strictly to the Code of Federal Regulations governing the executive branch agencies. The new regulation is applicable immediately to nonbargaining unit employees and will be applicable to bargaining unit employees upon completion of impact bargaining. These procedures have rarely been used—and never to penalize staffers; they were designed to ensure a healthy, capable work force.

But we came to realize that the Americans with Disabilities Act required updating our fitness regulation to place the responsibility on the staff member for assuring fitness instead of having the Library make that decision.

Labor-Management Problems

Another area that needs and will receive increased attention is labor-management relations. Contract provisions—coupled with the very broad requirements to bargain levied by the Federal Service Labor Management Relations Statute—mandate bargaining over a wide variety of management-proposed changes that affect a condition of employment. I am not satisfied with the Library's relations with its three labor unions—AFSCME 2477 and 2910 and CREA. We must do better, and we have taken important recent steps to improve relations.

We have requested the assistance of the FLRA officials, and I appointed in April a new labor relations chief; and our senior managers are now meeting regularly with union representatives. Faced with downsizing and budget austerity, we must have rational discussion of labor-management issues and a joint effort to modernize our collective bargaining arrangements.

Human Development

Better human relations and human development are central to our plans for a future staff able to perform new tasks. I have, myself, recently conducted two large forums with top managers and two with collections security personnel and intend to continue such meetings. I have given my senior adviser for diversity broad authority to be involved in work force issues; and I have asked the Deputy Librarian to explore the development of a major program for on-the-job training, mentoring and transferring skills from senior to junior staff, which we are referring to as our "internal university."

Faced with few prospects for new

hires and one of the lowest turnover rates in government, the Library must find ways to develop new and greater skills with and for our existing staff. I have specified that such a project be realized essentially through existing resources. I will report on the progress of this exploration to the Joint Committee and will, of course, submit any proposals that might result for consideration to the committee and approval before beginning any such program.

For management as a whole, I have strengthened decision-making and accountability by replacing a large Management Team with a new five-person Executive Committee. The committee is steadily addressing such matters as collections security, human resources, labor relations and financial accountability. Core Library service programs have been consolidated from three service units to a single unit. All major support functions and the new National Digital Library Program are now under the chief of staff. I have appointed new leadership during the past year in all three service units that most directly serve Congress: the Congressional Research Service, the Copyright Office and the Law Library. Each of these experienced new leaders is reorganizing his or her unit for greater efficiency and productivity.

Financial Management And the Inspector General

The Library is preparing for a full external audit of its FY 1995 financial statements and welcomes the examination of all aspects of the Library's management by GAO as requested by Sens. Mark O. Hatfield [R-Ore.] and Connie Mack [R-Fla.]. The Library's management has already been meeting with the 1995 GAO audit team for several weeks and we will cooperate fully with this effort. We anticipate that, as with the 1991 audit that I requested, the GAO report next spring will provide the basis for requests by the Library for new or revised legislative authority in key areas.

"The National Digital Library Program will significantly help with the long-term security of many of our most valuable collections. As we digitize items and put them on the Internet, fewer such items will be at risk from physical handling or mutilation."

In the meantime, I will be seeking statutory authority for a revolving gift fund as recommended in the previous GAO audit. We have developed and submitted legislation for this purpose for each session of Congress since 1991. The Senate has acted on each of these bills, but the House has not.

I created the Library's first Office of the Inspector General in 1988, shortly after taking office. Since then, the overall staff of seven has increased to 11 and performed many valuable audits with my full backing. We will increase the total IG staff to 16 in the current year. In April we brought aboard an assistant inspector general for investigations, as a criminal investigator. To reinforce the IG's effectiveness and firmly establish the appearance, as well as the reality, of the inspector general's independence, I have already submitted a draft bill to create a statutory inspector general. I hope Congress will act on it.

Looking Ahead

In the months to come, I expect to report regularly to this committee on the steps we are taking in these three areas of recent concern: collections security, financial management and human resources. We also will be developing for the committee's consideration some proposals to provide over the long term both the appropriate funding and the necessary legislative authority to address a number of other longstanding structural and systemic barriers to progress and flexibility. I will be bringing in two separate external consultants to review respectively our legal and our managerial procedures, and we have under way a review of our complex and cumbersome statutory and regulatory regime.

In this time of budget austerity, Congress has been extremely supportive of the Library of Congress, recognizing that it is the greatest collection of knowledge in the world, a unique national institution and fundamentally different from other agencies in the legislative branch of government. We appreciate the fact that the Library this year has been encouraged to pursue technological innovation, to seek private support for the National Digital Library effort and to move toward the 21st century, even as it maintains its traditional services to Congress and the public. We have plenty of improvements still to make and problems to solve, but the basic fact is that, despite everything, this Library staff is doing far more with far fewer people than it did eight years ago. I am proud of their efforts and I stand ready to answer your questions.

Queen *(Cont. from p. 486)*
Members Room to talk with Library curators and see for themselves the treasures that had been shown to the royal visitors.

Queen Beatrix became the head of state of the Netherlands on April 30, 1980, when her mother, Queen Juliana, abdicated in her favor. She and Prince Claus, who were married in 1966, have three children.

The younger sister of Queen Beatrix, Princess Margriet, visited the Library with her son, Prince Bernhard, in 1989.

—Helen Dalrymple is a senior public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20540-8610

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE $300

BULK RATE
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
WASHINGTON, D.C.
PERMIT No. G-103

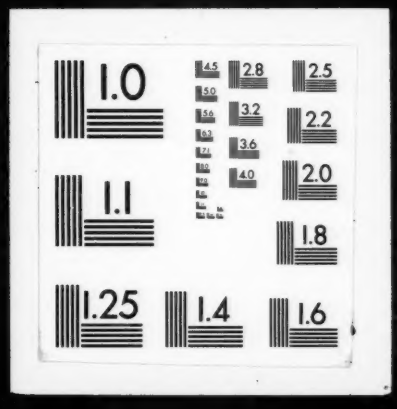
DATED MATERIAL

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSN 0041-7904

If you wish to be removed from the mailing list for this publication check here ☐ and return this page to the above address. If change is required enter on address label and return.

0163206 005
Univ Microfilms International
ATTN Serials Acquisitions Dept
300 North Zeeb Road
Ann Arbor MI 48106


1.0
1.1
1.25
1.4
1.6
2.8
3.2
3.6
4.0
2.5
2.2
2.0
1.8